

Remarks

Claims 1-20 were rejected under Section 103 as being obvious over Sperry (5995723) in view of Lamming (5862321).

Claim 11 is directed to a method that includes a printer receiving a print job with wireless notification instructions and, in response to receiving the print job, performing the print job and transferring print job status over a wireless link to a wireless receiver that is different from the initiating device that transferred the print job to the printer. Claims 1 and 5 are programming counterparts to the method of Claim 1 and contain similar limitations.

In support of the rejection, the Office asserts (1) that Sperry teaches an initiating device sending a print job to a printer along with instructions to send print job status back to the initiating device and (2) that Lamming teaches instructions for the printer to send print job status to a wireless receiver that is not the initiating device. As detailed below, neither assertion is correct.

Fig. 7 in Sperry illustrates a menu screen that allows the user to specify events for which the user is to be notified when those events are executed. Sperry, column 6, lines 53-54 and column 9, lines 9-11. In Fig. 7, for example, the user is to be notified by email when the print job is completed. There is no indication anywhere in Sperry that the printer receives notification instructions along with a specific print job to email the user when the print job is completed. At best, Sperry stands for the unremarkable proposition that a printer may be configured to send the status of a print job to the initiating device, typically the user's computer or a print server. The state of the art in this regard is noted in part 2, Statement of the Problem, in the Background section of the pending patent application.

The key here is that Sperry does not teach the initiating device sending notification instructions to the printer along with the print job to send the status of that print job back to the initiating device (or anywhere else). The Office's apparent assertion to the contrary is not correct. If the Office disagrees, it is respectfully requested to specifically point out and explain those passages in Sperry that support the Office's position. Absent such a showing, the rejection based on Sperry should be

withdrawn.

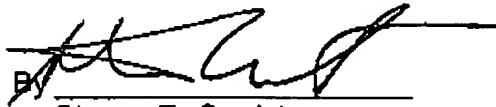
The Office also asserts that Lamming teaches notification instructions configured to direct the printing device to transfer print job status over a wireless link to a wireless receiver that is different from the initiating device. This assertion is not correct. The Office cites to Lamming column 9, lines 20-27 in support of its assertion. This passage in Lamming teaches a confidential printer "Picador 36b" deferring a print job until the requesting "Richard's TAB" (PDA) 16 is detected near the printer and then printing the job and alerting the PDA 16 that the job is done. The fact that the print job is deferred until "the next time Richard is in the vicinity of Picador 36b" clearly suggests that Richard's PDA is the requesting device. So far as Applicant can determine, Lamming does not say which device actually communicates the print request to the printer. There appear to be two options -- (1) the PDA communicates the print request to the document database server which has access to the document and then the document database server sends the print request to the printer or (2) the PDA sends the print request to the printer with the document token and the printer retrieves the document from the database server.

In scenario number 1, the wireless receiver (Richard's PDA) might be deemed to be different from the initiating device. Even if Lamming is construed to suggest scenario number 1, there is still no teaching that the print request from the document database server includes a wireless notification request. On the contrary, the fact that Lamming calls out a "confidential" printer in his notification scenario clearly suggests the printer is pre-programmed to defer printing until Richard's PDA shows up. In scenario number 2, of course, the wireless receiver is the same as the initiating device.

So, no matter how Lamming is construed, the two references do not teach or suggest all of the elements of independent Claims 1, 5 and 11. For these same reasons, Claims 2-4, 6-10 and 12-20 distinguish over the cited references due to their dependence on Claims 1, 5 and 11.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding office action.

Respectfully submitted,
David Luman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven R. Ormiston", written over a horizontal line.

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Reg. No. 35,974

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